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# No Surprise To Mitchell If Lodge Leaves State

By JACK ZAIMAN

Democratic National Chairman Stephen A. Mitchell of Chicago declared Monday that he wouldn't be surprised if Gov. Lodge took a post with the Eisenhower administration before the end of his gubernatorial term.

Here for a daylong meeting with Connecticut Democratic leaders, Mitchell held two press interviews and made several speeches. "I wouldn't be surprised if Gov. Lodge left the state," he said on one occasion. "There's plenty of nepotism in Washington and a couple of Lodges wouldn't matter much."

## Sees 'Casual Attitude'

"There are two Eisenhowers in the administration, two Brownells and two Dulles," Mitchell said. "I wouldn't be surprised if they came up with two Lodges but I have no information on the subject."

Mitchell said the taking of other posts by three members of the elected GOP state ticket "shows a pretty casual attitude towards state government." He referred to the resignations of George C. Conway, former attorney general, to become a Superior Court Judge; of Mrs. Alice K. Leopold, former secretary of state, to take a Washington post; and the election of State Treasurer Joseph Adorno as probate judge in the Middletown district.

Following a luncheon conference with Mitchell, Connecticut party leaders agreed to attempt to raise \$10,000 for the Democratic National Committee before Jan. 1. National Committeeman John Golden of New Haven was named chairman of a committee that will seek to raise the fund.

## Addresses State Committee

Three gubernatorial possibilities attended the luncheon—former Gov. Chester Bowles, former Rep. Abraham A. Ribicoff and Mayor John L. Sullivan of New Britain. The luncheon was given by State Chairman John M. Bailey.

At night, Mitchell spoke at a special meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee at the Hotel Bond. He repeated some of the views he expressed during the day at party talks and in interviews.

Mitchell declined to say whom

would nominate for governor next year. "The leaders tell me," he said, "that the party is rich in fine candidates. The nomination won't go by default."

He said he was told that party prospects look good in Connecticut next year. "The leaders think the Democratic Party has gained ground over a year ago."

Mitchell said he "has heard a lot of questions raised about the effectiveness" of Mrs. Clare Boothe Luce of Ridgefield as U. S. ambassador to Italy. He criticized Henry R. Luce, Mrs. Luce's husband, for the "inordinate amount of support his publications (Time, Life and Fortune) are giving the Republicans. People are concerned about the political bias of certain publications."

## Charges White Tip Off

He charged that "certain publications and newspaper chains were tipped off" by the Eisenhower administration in advance of the Harry Dexter White revelations "because they were all ready with their reports."

Mitchell declined to say whether Republicans or Democrats "won" in the White case controversy. "But the country lost something," he said. "The country has recognized this as a political diversion. I don't think the Democrats as a political party lost anything."

He said he expected to resign as national chairman after the 1954 Congressional campaign, and then would devote himself to his private legal practice. He said he has no choice of a Presidential nominee for the party in 1956. "But I'll be for someone in 1956 as a private citizen. I have no intention to be active right now for Stevenson (Adlai Stevenson) or anyone else."

After talking with the party leaders, Mitchell said he was "remendously pleased" with the promise of Connecticut support for the National Committee.

He came to Hartford from Vermont, where he spoke Sunday night. He was scheduled to come in by plane Monday at 10:30 a.m. at Bradley Field, and party leaders were there to greet him. Instead he came in by train about two hours later.

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